

configurable to fit between corner rail posts that are adjacently located by slidably engaging the adjacent corner rail post channels to form a multi-step shoring wall of two or more steps, and iii.) configurable to fit between corner rail posts and linear rail posts that are adjacently located by slidably engaging the adjacent corner rail post channels and linear rail post channels to form a multi-step shoring wall of two or more steps, and

A1 d) at least two trusses slidably positionable along and formlocking positionable between linear rail posts when those rail posts are symmetrically located across a trench from each other; each said truss comprising i.) a pair of vertical truss members slidable along a linear rail post and ii.) a pair of cross members rotatably secured to each other and each cross member having ends configured to be pinnable to a vertical truss member, and

wherein connection between the linear rail posts or corner rail posts and panels is magnetic and either the linear rail posts or the shoring panels further comprise magnets situated to effect such a connection.

Please add claims 16-54 as follows:

16. (New) The device of claim 1 where at least one of the vertical step guides in each linear rail post channel is configured to provide partial locking for the shoring panels.

A2 17. (New) The device of claim 2 where at least one of the vertical step guides in each corner rail post channel is configured to provide partial locking for the shoring panels.

18. (New) The device of claim 3 where at least one of the vertical step guides in each linear rail post channel and in each corner step channel is configured to provide partial locking for the shoring panels.

19. (New) The device of claim 1 wherein each of the step vertical guides has a length

and that length is between $1/2$ and $7/8$ of the total length of the linear rail post.

20. (New) The device of claim 3 wherein each of the step vertical guides has a length and that length is between $1/2$ and $7/8$ of the total length of the linear rail post.

21. (New) The device of claim 1 wherein the linear rail posts further comprise a vertical guide member attached to an outer side of the linear rail post and adapted to accept an additional linear rail post.

22. (New) The device of claim 3 wherein the linear rail posts further comprise a vertical guide member attached to an outer side of the linear rail post and adapted to accept an additional linear rail post.

23. (New) The device of claim 1 wherein the vertical truss members further comprise lateral guide channels configured to allow vertical passage of shoring panels past the vertical truss member.

24. (New) The device of claim 3 wherein the vertical truss members further comprise lateral guide channels configured to allow vertical passage of shoring panels past the vertical truss member.

25. (New) The device of claim 1 wherein the truss further comprises at least one spreader having spreader ends, the spreader ends configured to connect to a vertical truss member.

26. (New) The device of claim 3 wherein the truss further comprises at least one spreader having spreader ends, the spreader ends configured to connect to a vertical truss

member.

27. (New) The device of claim 1 wherein the vertical truss members further comprise rollers configured to contact and to roll along a linear rail post.

28. (New) The device of claim 3 wherein the vertical truss members further comprise rollers configured to contact and to roll along a linear rail post.

29. (New) The device of claim 1 wherein the shoring panels comprise magnetic flat bar members located to magnetically engage a linear rail post.

30. (New) The device of claim 2 wherein the shoring panels comprise magnetic flat bar members located to magnetically engage a corner rail post. ✓

31. (New) The device of claim 3 wherein the shoring panels comprise magnetic flat bar members located to magnetically engage a linear rail post or a corner rail post.

32. (New) The device of claim 1 wherein the linear rail posts comprise magnetic flat bar members located to magnetically engage a shoring panel.

33. (New) The device of claim 2 wherein the corner rail posts comprise magnetic flat bar members located to magnetically engage a shoring panel.

34. (New) The device of claim 3 wherein the linear rail posts and corner rail posts comprise magnetic flat bar members located to magnetically engage a shoring panel.

35. (New) The device of claim 1 wherein the shoring panels further comprise a

detachable cutting edge affixed by bolts or pins.

36. (New) The device of claim 2 wherein the shoring panels further comprise a detachable cutting edge affixed by bolts or pins.

37. (New) The device of claim 3 wherein the shoring panels further comprise a detachable cutting edge affixed by bolts or pins.

38. (New) The device of claim 1 wherein the shoring panels further comprise a hammering surface.

39. (New) The device of claim 2 wherein the shoring panels further comprise a hammering surface.

40. (New) The device of claim 3 wherein the shoring panels further comprise a hammering surface.

41. (New) A device for shoring trenches comprising:

a) at least two linear rail posts symmetrically spacable on either side of a trench; each linear rail post having opposing sides and each said opposing side having a channel for slidably accepting shoring panels, the channels having a stepped cross section formed with two or more steps,

b) at least one truss per two linear rail posts slidably and formlocking positionable between linear rail posts when those rail posts are symmetrically located across a trench from each other; each said truss comprising

i.) a pair of vertical truss members slidable along a linear rail post, and

ii.) a pair of cross members rotatably secured to each other and each cross

member having ends configured to be pinnable to a vertical truss member.

42. (New) The device of claim 41 where at least one of the vertical step guides in each linear rail post channel is configured to provide partial locking for the shoring panels.

43. (New) The device of claim 41 wherein each of the step vertical guides has a length and that length is between $1/2$ and $7/8$ of the total length of the linear rail post.

44. (New) The device of claim 41 wherein the vertical truss members further comprise lateral guide channels configured to allow vertical passage of shoring panels past the vertical truss member.

45. (New) The device of claim 41 wherein the truss further comprises at least one spreader having spreader ends, the spreader ends configured to connect to a vertical truss member.

46. (New) The device of claim 41 wherein the vertical truss members further comprise rollers configured to contact and to roll along a linear rail post.

47. (New) The device of claim 41 wherein the vertical truss members further comprise a multitude of openings configured to attach to said an end of a cross member.

48. (New) A device for shoring trenches comprising a truss situatable between two linear rail posts symmetrically spacable on either side of a trench; each linear rail post having opposing sides and each said opposing side having a channel for slidably accepting shoring panels, the channels having a stepped cross section formed with two or more steps, slidably and formlockingly positionable between linear rail posts when those rail posts are symetrically

located across a trench from each other; each said truss comprising

- i.) a pair of vertical truss members slidable along a linear rail post, and
- ii.) a pair of cross members rotatably secured to each other and each cross member having ends configured to be pinnable to a vertical truss member.

49. (New) The device of claim 48 wherein the vertical truss members further comprise lateral guide channels configured to allow vertical passage of shoring panels past the vertical truss member.

50. (New) The device of claim 48 wherein the truss further comprises at least one spreader having spreader ends, the spreader ends configured to connect to a vertical truss member.

51. (New) The device of claim 48 wherein the vertical truss members further comprise rollers configured to contact and to roll along a linear rail post.

52. (New) The device of claim 48 wherein the vertical truss members further comprise a multitude of openings configured to attach to an end of a cross member.

53. (New) A device for shoring pits comprising a corner rail post arrangeable vertically on a corner of a pit, each corner rail post having two sides that are substantially perpendicular to each other, each said side having a vertical channel for slidably accepting shoring panels, the channels having a stepped cross section formed with two or more steps, each step defining a vertical guide completely or partially open.

54. (New) The device of claim 53 where at least one of the vertical step guides in the corner rail post channel is configured to provide partial locking for shoring panels.